

Loughborough Rural District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year Ending 31st December, 1914.

LOUGHBOROUGH :
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Loughborough Rural District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ending 31st December, 1914.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1914.

Area in Statute Acres, 20,344.
Population, 4579.
No. of Inhabited Houses, 1103.
Average of persons per house, 4.15.

The physical features and general character of the district are an undulating rural district, high on the eastern portion, namely, the Parishes of Burton-on-the-Wolds and Wymeswold, the lands of which are mainly used for cattle and grazing of sheep. Lower down, and nearer the Borough of Loughborough, come the Parishes of Prestwold, Cotes and Hoton, consisting of rich, fertile land, a considerable portion of which is cultivated, and the same may be said of the Parishes of Woodthorpe, Nanpanton, Thorpe Acre and Dishley. Garendon consists mostly of the demesne of that name. The Parishes of Hathern, Long Whatton and Belton consist largely of grazing land. The condition of the inhabitants of the district is fairly prosperous. The chief occupation of the inhabitants is agriculture. There are no occupations having a prejudicial influence on the public health. There are two factory workshops at Long Whatton, and one at Hathern, both hosiery, and employing mostly women.

Water Supply.

The village of Nanpanton and Prestwold Hall, as well as Burleigh Hall, have the public supply of water from the Borough of Loughborough. The supply is uniformly of good quality. In other parts of the district the water supply is derived from wells, and as well water is constantly liable to change from pollution from the surface of adjoining grounds, movement of subsoil water, etc., this matter receives a considerable amount of attention from the Inspector of Nuisances.

Eleven samples of drinking water were submitted to me for analysis during the year, six were condemned, and the wells were cleansed and repaired.

Milk Supply.

The milk supply is derived from the farms of the district. There is no milk imported, but considerable quantities are sent out of the district to London and elsewhere. The dairies are subject to regular inspection under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops Order, and a Veterinary Inspector is appointed to examine milch cows in the district. Every precaution is used for the detection of tuberculous milch cows.

Other Foods.

There are no unsound foods prepared or exposed for sale in the district. A general supervision is exercised over slaughter-houses. The slaughter-houses are all in a cleanly condition.

Sewerage and Drainage.

At Wymeswold there is a system of drainage put down about 30 years ago. There is a reservoir for flushing at the higher end of the village, and a sewage farm with settling tanks for extracting sludge at the lower end. This, however, has been improved upon, and a satisfactory effluent is now obtained.

At Burton-on-the-Wolds, the sewage is passed over an osier plot, which has yielded a satisfactory effluent. Throughout the remainder of the district liquid house refuse finds its way in the ordinary manner through the house drain to the village sewer, and thence by lines of natural drainage (which in most cases are long dykes) to the nearest river or brook; these dykes are periodically cleansed, by order of the Council,

Sewerage, Sewage Disposal, etc., Hathern.

The Rural District Council have under consideration the disposal of sewage as recommended in previous reports.

Excrement Disposal.

The system in vogue for this purpose is the old-fashioned midden and privy arrangement, the defects of which have been pointed out in previous reports.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.

This is done by the occupiers—there are no public scavengers.

Methods of dealing with Infectious Diseases.

The Compulsory Notification Act is in force. Enteric Fever and Diphtheric cases are isolated at the Loughborough Isolation Hospital. The County Council provide Isolation Hospitals for smallpox. All other infectious diseases are isolated at their homes. Disinfection is carried out with sulphur-di-oxide and formaldehyde spray.

Schools.

The schools of the district are administered by the County Council, and the medical inspection of school children is also arranged by them. The general sanitary condition of the schools is good. The following schools have been closed for periods during the year. For Chicken-pox, Burton-on-the-Wolds; Measles, Thorpe Acre, Burton-on-the-Wolds and Belton; Measles and Chicken-pox, Wymeswold; Mumps, Hathern.

Method of Control of Tuberculosis.

During the year 5 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been notified, and during that period one death has been registered from pulmonary tuberculosis.

In common with other Councils throughout the County, this Council has arranged to go in with the County scheme for Sanatoria and Hospital treatment. The County Council has appointed health visitors, who visit the patients and inspect their houses and surroundings, and give advice as to precautions and isolation necessary to be taken in cases of this disease. The rooms occupied by the patients are periodically disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector with formalin; or when a death occurs or a removal takes place, the rooms are fumigated, etc.

Nuisances.

Ninety-four nuisances were abated during the year.

Housing and Town Planning Act.

The number of dwellinghouses inspected under and for the purposes of Sect. 17 of the Act of 1909 is 47, the number of houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation is 17; the number of representations to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders is 17, and the same number of orders were made. The number of dwellinghouses, the defects of which were considered without the making of Closing Orders were 17, and the number of houses which after the making of Closing Orders were made fit is none. Ten houses were demolished as a result of Closing Orders issued in the previous year.

The general character of defects found were defective roofs, damp walls, defective rain-water conductors, dirty, dilapidated, insufficiently lighted and ventilated, defective paving and defective drains, insanitary privies and ash-pits.

Births.

The total number of births registered was 83, being 17 less than last year, and is an annual birth-rate of 18.1 per thousand of the population.

Mortality.

The total number of deaths registered is 43, two of which did not belong to the district, to which must be added 8 which occurred outside, but belonging to the district. In this manner we arrive at the correct mortality of 49, which is 9 less than last year, and is an annual death rate of 10.7 per thousand.

Infant Mortality.

The total number of deaths under one year is 6 which is 2 less than last year.

Infectious Diseases Notified.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases was 15, which was fourteen less than last year.

The cases were as follows :—

- 8 DIPHTHERIA. Three at Hathern and three at Belton, also one at Hoton and one at Dishley.
- 2 SCARLET FEVER. One at Hathern and one at Belton.
- 4 PHTHISIS. One at Hathern, one at Long Whatton, one at Belton, and one at Hoton.
- 1 OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS. *i.e.*, at Hathern.
- 6 MEASLES AND DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES. Tuberculosis diseases one, Diphtheria three, Diarrhœa and Enteric two.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Of these there are 64 in the district, an increase of two on last year; all are registered; 93 inspections were made, detecting 53 cases where cleansing and limewashing were required and 4 in which structural alterations were necessary. The requirements were carried out in every case.

Factory and Workshops.

In eleven cases want of cleanliness was detected and remedied.

From the report of the Inspector of Nuisances hereto appended, will be seen details of the amount of sanitary work accomplished during the year.

Appended also are tabulated statistics as to population, births and mortality for present and previous five years, also of infectious diseases notified, and of deaths classified according to diseases, ages and localities, also of deaths under one year, copies of which, as well as of this report, when printed, will be sent to the Leicestershire County Council, the Home Office, and the Local Government Board.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

N. B. M. BLACKHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS.

Mortality from adjoined causes:—Phthisis 1, Cancer 1, Organic Heart Disease 5, Bronchitis 5, Pneumonia 6, Bright's Disease 1, Congenital Debility and Premature Birth 2, Violent Deaths 1, Influenza 1, Diphtheria 3, Enteritis and Diarrhœa 2, all other causes 21, Total 49.

24 of these were of persons 65 years of age and upwards.

Births and Deaths.

POPULATION.			BIRTHS.		DEATHS.
Hathern	...	1209	Boys 11	Girls 12	13
Long Whatton	...	571	„ 4	„ 7	9
Belton	...	607	„ 6	„ 7	10
Wymeswold	...	777	„ 9	„ 9	9
Hoton	...	251	„ 1	„ 3	2
Burton-on-Wolds	...	293	„ 2	„ 5	1
{ Prestwold	... 84 }	141	„ 0	„ 0	0
{ Cotes	... 57 }		„ 0	„ 0	0
Charley	...	138	„ 1	„ 1	0
Nanpanton	...	316	„ 2	„ 1	3
{ Thorpe Acre	... }	174	„ 0	„ 2	2
{ Dishley	... }		„ 0	„ 0	0
Garendon	...	46	„ 0	„ 0	0
Woodthorpe	...	56	„ 0	„ 0	0
			„ 36	„ 47	
Total 4579			Total 83.		Total 49

**To the Chairman and Members of the Loughborough
Rural District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

The following is my annual report of nuisances, etc., dealt with for the year ending December 31st 1914, under the Public Health, Housing Inspection, Factory and Workshop Acts and the Dairy and Cowsheds Regulations, copies of which have been forwarded to the Home Office, Local Government Board and County Council through the Medical Officer of Health.

Premises, Houses, etc., inspected	...	...	793
Nuisances abated	...	...	94
Pools, Ditches, etc., inspected	...	...	11
Nuisances abated	...	...	5
Privies, Cesspools, etc., inspected	...	...	564
Nuisances abated	...	...	58
New provided	...	...	7
Converted to Pails	...	...	4
Drains, Drain Traps, etc., inspected	...	...	672
Nuisances abated	...	...	66
Houses (or part) Fumigated or Sprayed after			
Infectious Diseases	...	...	15
Schools Fumigated	...	...	5
Samples of Water taken for analysis	...	...	11
Condemned as unfit for Drinking purposes	...	...	6
Wells cleansed and repaired	...	...	6
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces in the			
District	...	...	142
Bakehouses	...	...	7
Laundries	...	...	5
Slaughter Houses	...	...	5
Nuisances abated	...	...	11
Number of Cowkeepers in the District	...	...	190
Dairymen and Milk Sellers registered	...	...	64

I have served 53 notices on Occupiers of cowsheds to cleanse and limewash, and 4 notices on Owners to carry out certain structural alterations or lay down new systems of drainage.

Factories and Workshops have been periodically inspected and 11 notices served to cleanse and limewash, and home work has been stopped in 3 cases because of infectious diseases.

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

Number of dwellings inspected	...	...	47
Number in which defects were found	...	...	34
Number in which defects were remedied	...	...	17
Number of houses closed as being unfit for human habitation	...	...	17
Number of houses demolished in Hathern	...	...	10
(These were closed as unfit for human habitation in the previous year).			

The Sewerage dykes and cisterns in the various Parishes have been cleansed when required, as ordered by the Council.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

H. J. MORGAN,

Sanitary Inspector.

Derby Road,
Loughborough,
3rd April, 1915.

